

What Is Claimed Is:

1 1. In a wireless communication system
2 including a network controller providing
3 communication services to a plurality of mobile user
4 terminals, a method of defining user zones
5 associated with each of said user terminals
6 comprising the steps of:
7 locating a user terminal within said
8 wireless communication system;
9 referencing at least one user-selected
10 vector from said user terminal location;
11 transmitting said vector information to
12 said network controller; and
13 generating at the network controller, a
14 user zone associated with said user terminal as a
15 function of said vector information, said user zone
16 defining a geographic region wherein said user
17 terminal can access said communication services of
18 said communication system without incurring out-of-
19 network fees.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step
2 of locating a user terminal within said wireless
3 communication system includes the step of receiving
4 at the user terminal global positioning system (GPS)
5 signals and providing coordinates indicating location
6 of the user terminal.

1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step
2 of providing coordinates indicating location of the
3 user terminal includes the step of displaying the
4 location of the user terminal referenced to a map on
5 a display of the user terminal.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step
2 of referencing at least one user-selected vector from
3 said user terminal location includes the step of
4 referencing a plurality of vectors from said user
5 terminal location, each of said vectors providing a
6 distance and angle measurement referenced from a
7 predetermined direction from the location of the user
8 terminal, and wherein the step of generating at the
9 network controller, a user zone associated with said
10 user terminal as a function of said vector
11 information includes the step of connecting each end
12 point defined by each of said vectors to form said
13 user zone.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step
2 of referencing at least one user-selected vector from
3 said user terminal location includes the step of
4 referencing a vector representing a radius (r) from
5 said user terminal location, and wherein the step of
6 generating at the network controller, a user zone
7 associated with said user terminal as a function of
8 said vector information includes the step of defining
9 a circle about said user terminal of radius r to form
10 said user zone.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein said
2 network controller is a mobile switching center.

1 7. A wireless communication system
2 comprising, in combination:
3 a network controller for processing
4 communication data transmitted to, and received from,
5 a plurality of mobile user terminals;
6 at least one of said mobile user terminals
7 including a global position system (GPS) receiver for
8 locating said user terminal within said wireless
9 communication system and a user display for defining
10 a preferred user zone;
11 said network controller including a
12 processor for generating a user zone associated with
13 each of said user terminals as a function of the
14 defined preferred user zone, said user zone defining
15 a geographic region wherein said user terminal can
16 access said communication services of said
17 communication system without incurring out-of-network
18 fees.

1 8. The wireless communication system of
2 claim 7 wherein the network controller is a mobile
3 switching center.

1 9. The wireless communication system of
2 claim 7 wherein said communication data includes
3 voice and data information.

1 10. The wireless communication system of
2 claim 7 wherein said mobile user terminal includes
3 means for inputting at least one user-selected vector
4 referenced from said user terminal location, said at
5 least one vector being used to generate said user
6 zone.

1 11. The wireless communication system of
2 claim 7 wherein said mobile user terminal includes a
3 stylus in operative communication with said display,
4 said stylus being used to referencing at least one
5 user-selected vector from said user terminal
6 location, said at least one vector being used to
7 generate said user zone.

1 12. The wireless communication system of
2 claim 11 wherein said display includes a map
3 referencing the position of the user terminal with
4 respect to at least one landmark.

1 13. In a geographic region serviced by at
2 least two wireless communication service providers,
3 each of said service providers having a wireless
4 communication system including a network controller
5 providing communication services to a plurality of
6 mobile user terminals, a method of requesting
7 communication services within a user-defined user
8 zone comprising the steps of:

9 locating a user terminal within said
10 geographic region serviced by at least two wireless
11 communication service providers;

12 referencing at least one user-selected
13 vector from said user terminal location;

14 transmitting from said user terminal, said
15 vector data to said wireless communication service
16 providers; and

17 receiving from at least one of said
18 wireless communication service providers a quote for
19 services within a user zone defining a geographic
20 region as a function of said vector information.

1 14. The method of claim 13 further
2 comprising the step of transmitting from said user
3 terminal a request for voice communication services
4 to said wireless communication service providers.

1 15. The method of claim 13 further
2 comprising the step of transmitting from said user
3 terminal a request for data transmission services to
4 said wireless communication service providers.

1 16. The method of claim 13 wherein the
2 step of receiving from at least one of said wireless
3 communication service providers a quote for services
4 includes a quote for voice communication services.

1 17. The method of claim 13 wherein the
2 step of receiving from at least one of said wireless
3 communication service providers a quote for services
4 includes a quote for data transmission services.